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CHAL-0503
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2 January 1959

STAFF MEETING MINUTES - 30 December 1958

25X1A

Personnel Present: Mr Bissell
Col Burke

Mr Reber

25X1A

Mr Cunningham

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1. INTRODUCTION OF ASSISTANT DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PLANS) - Mr. Bissell opened the meeting by introducing [redacted] who on 2 January will become Assistant Deputy Director (PLANS) for Psychological and Paramilitary Operations.

25X1D

Mr. Bissell noted that there were some differences of opinion with regard to the CIA/OSI ability to give adequate notice (6 hours) of Russian missile firings. Recently there had been two firings with no warning whatsoever; however, OSI has given its assurance that these were extremely unusual incidents and that OSI would be able to give the six hour notice.

25X1A

3. MERGER - Col. Burke announced that a completed draft of the merger proposals was finished, and copies would be sent to Mr. Bissell and to the Air Division on 30 December. The latter was advised to show its copy only to Mr. Helms and [redacted] Copies for the affected divisions will be separately distributed.

25X1C

Mr. Bissell asked Col. Burke to assure Col. Webb of the Air Division that the inevitable personnel review occurring as a result of the merger would be most carefully done and that it would not be simply a hatcheting of Air Division personnel. Mr. Bissell also suggested that attrition may well be the method by which necessary reductions will be accomplished.

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6. [] Col. Burke announced that the procurement of aircraft [] is proceeding but that not much progress has been made in other parts of the operation. Mr. Bissell commented that the chances of any actual operations developing out of [] look pretty grim at present; but he did feel that it has been good as a staff exercise in learning how to organize a task force for this type of operation.

25X1A

7. TEST STATUS BOARD - [] announced that the dual oxygen system is progressing well and has been installed in three of the last five production model U-2's.

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8. CORONA CONTRACTING - [] announced that he had reviewed with PIC the subject of transferring certain CORONA contracting to the Office of Logistics and that one fairly substantial ITEK item could not be transferred because of security considerations. [] said that actually there was a fairly constant transfer of these contract items to Logistics, and [] commented that [] was very pleased with the state of affairs in this department.

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There ensued a discussion of the criteria which should determine whether contracting should be done by the DPS Staff or by the Office of Logistics. The two controlling factors are: (a) security; (b) necessity for close liaison with the contractor. Mr. Bissell said that in cases where security was the only question, it might be possible for [] to set up a cell within the Office of Logistics in order to compartment sensitive contracting. [] commented that this would be contrary to the Office of Logistics' current and traditional way of doing business, but [] said that he thought [] would be willing to make changes. Mr. Bissell requested [] to consider this situation and make recommendations.

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ACTION: []

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8. WORKLOAD IN DPS COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE - There was a discussion of what types of things cause the greatest flow of paper through the DPS Comptroller's Office. [] review of this subject led him to conclude that transactions concerning travel were a very major portion of his work. Mr. Cunningham and [] were requested by Mr. Bissell to consider what parts of the Comptroller's work might logically and usefully be shifted to the Finance Division.

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ACTION: Messrs. Cunningham []

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9. OPERATIONAL POLICY DECISIONS - In connection with a question that had arisen concerning whether or not detonators should be carried on overflights, Headquarters' policy was reaffirmed that such policy decisions must be made by this Headquarters, with the advice of the operating detachment. On the specific item, a decision was reached to carry detonators on Middle East flights.

25X1A

10. FORM OF PAPER WORK PRESENTED TO MR. BISSELL - Mr. Bissell commented that, particularly after he assumes new duties as the DD/P, it will be most important that papers coming to him be clear as to what they are designed to accomplish. He was particularly desirous that recommendations be obviously listed as such and that a concurrence line be included; that conclusions (or the fact that no conclusions have been reached) be positively stated; and that requests for guidance not be buried in the general discussion of a topic.

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[]
JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Director of Administration
DPD-DD/P

APPROVED:

25X1A

[]
WILLIAM BURKE
Colonel USAF
Deputy Director, DPD-DD/P

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